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Weekly Report to Commissioners

Community Concerns

Culvert Installation/Replacement Requests:

- 2623 S Street in Belleville (the county road between the high school and the golf course); a driveway culvert needs replaced in the right-of-way.
- 120 Road and Elm; South half of the SE Quarter of the section needs driveways at the southwest and northeast corners improved and widened to 40ft; both will be dry plugs, borrow material is available at the northeast corner.
- 230 Road and Jade; NE Quarter needs 2 driveways on the north improved and widened to 40ft, one culvert (18"x40ft, owner will pay for pipe over 30ft) and one dry plug; on the east, also one dry plug.
- 144 140 Road; a driveway culvert needs replaced, and ditch cleaning is necessary to improve visibility. *Investigating (owner is willing to pay for pipe over 30ft)*
- Zeal Road, ¼ mile east of 260 Road on the south side; 30ft field access driveway requested.
- 926 King, driveway culvert needs replacing; *a quote has been provided for an additional 10 ft of pipe; waiting for a notice to proceed.*
- Lincoln Road 1/8 mile west of 90 Road on the north side; a 20ft field access culvert needs replaced with a 30ft culvert and ditch cleaning needs to occur to keep runoff from crossing the road.

Other Concerns:

- 902 Elm Road, property owner has requested side trimming of trees in the right-of-way in both directions from the residence to improve visibility.
- Marble re-grade ½ mile west of 90 road is too narrow. *Widened to 24ft+, shoulders will be wheel packed at three to one slope.*
- 100 Road ¼ mile north of Jade Road; ditch cleaning and a road lift are necessary to prevent water from ponding on the road.
- The owners of Premium Feeders and Nesika Energy are requesting improvements to 70 Road south of US 36 Highway for dust control.
 - a. A geotechnical study is being conducted by Consultant Terracon to specify a paving thickness based on soil strengths for one or more of the alternatives. Drilling for this study has been completed. Nearly 4 inches of asphalt millings (16 truckloads) were laid down near the entrance to Nesika Energy for 1/10 of a mile south to reduce the amount of dust during harvest this year. This could be part of a long-term solution.*
- Pawnee Museum Signs on 90 and Fir Roads need to be replaced. *Signs purchased and ready to install*

- 30 Road south of Bridge 3-D.7 and north of Elm Road, ditch cleaning is needed and a road lift.
 - a. Investigating*

Department Reports on Non-Routine Activities

Roads and Bridges

- We assisted the City of Scandia with the sealing of North Republic & 5th Streets and 4th Street west of Kansas Street. We then mobilized to Belleville and assisted the City with some street improvements until forecasted rain halted progress. Work will continue during the week on the 26th.
- The circle pin on the Broom sheared off during patchwork south of Scandia. The lead time on a replacement is more than 8 weeks so a new pin and brass bushing are being manufactured by a foundry in Concordia according to manufacturer's specifications.
- The Scraper is in the shop for an engine replacement; sprockets and rollers will also be replaced. These upgrades should extend the useful life of the machine about 10 years.
- We responded to many requests for gravel this week where the rain revealed needs.
- **Staff shortages and sealing and paving repairs have been keeping some operators out of their Districts longer than optimal and some concerns are being expressed about the conditions of the roads.** We will be overextended for several more weeks with asphalt sealing and patching.
- PENDING ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Bridge and Culverts Division Project List (in order of priority)

1. Rock Road, ¼ mile west of 290 Road. A wood box culvert will be replaced with a 60ft x 40ft culvert. *The property owner has requested that we delay this project until October when cattle will be moved from the adjacent pasture.*
 - a. Corner post for fence damaged by grader needs replaced when equipment is mobilized for this project.*
2. 130 Road 1/10-mile north of Elm Road. Erosion has undermined a box culvert abutment and some repairs are necessary before it can be backfilled. **Completed**
3. Jade Road .4 mile east of 90 Road; a box culvert under the road needs to be rebuilt or replaced with a tube.
4. Zeal Road ¾ mile east of 220 Road; the property owner is concerned that a culvert under the road is undersized for the watershed. *48" existing, 72" minimum needed*
5. Nickel Road at 30 Road on the west side of the intersection; a concrete box culvert is collapsing below the road surface. This will be replaced with a low profile "squash pipe."
6. 40 Road ½ mile south of Fir, a watershed is growing out of our right-of-way.
7. Oak Road west of 20 Road beginning at the Railroad crossing; waterway on the north side is eroding the base of the road and then meanders out of the right-of-way eroding a field. *Improvements will have to wait until after harvest.*
8. 760 290 Road, repair/replacement of a box culvert in their driveway that was constructed by the county when the road was straightened to approach Bridge 29-S.48.

Roads and Driveways Division Project List (in order of priority)

1. Queen Road, west of 20 Road, tree removal, ditch cleaning and driveway upgrades needed for the first ½ mile. *40 ft driveway installed; some ditch cleaning still needed*
2. 30 Road improvements to restore the crown in the roadway between Highway 36 and Fir Road. *The first mile north of US36 has been completed.*
3. Fir Road, east of Residence at 2641, Ditch work needed to re-route drainage out of field and a damaged culvert replaced.
4. Elm Road ¼ mile east of 180 Road; *mulching of overgrowth on the south side of the road, ditch cleaning, and rip rap need to be installed to minimize scour at the inlet and outfall of the culvert under the road. Completed*
5. 70 Road .3 mile north of Fir Road on the west side; ditch cleaning and a new culvert are needed under a driveway to stop storm water from scouring the road and flooding a feed storage yard.
6. Cut and patch 4-6ft of Concrete at 170 Road near residence 1549 (*Primary Road; Currently 23x23 & 10x23 inch potholes where previous asphalt patch has failed*).

Upcoming Events

- Cold/hot patching on Fir approaches to the Republic River Bridge. *Subsurface excavated and filled with millings, cold patching will be completed as soon as the broom is returned to service.*
- Cold/hot patching on 90 Road south of Bridge 9-Q.1 near Scandia. *Completed*
- 260 Cold Patching between Cuba and KS148 (1,000+ tons)
- Courtland cold patching
- Cuba cold patching
- Bidding and award of a contract for the replacement of Bridge X-27.2 south of Agenda.
- Special Projects in the works or being considered by the Highway Administrator
 - a. Capital improvement plan for shop/office facilities and paved infrastructure. *Values for local replacement costs have been challenging to obtain.*
 - b. Fleet management hardware and software. *Proposals are being evaluated.*
 - c. District Map updates and minimum standards for road maintenance.
 - d. Asphalt paving options. *Contracting vs. purchasing equipment is being evaluated.*
 - e. Grader upgrade.
- Vacations of Right-of-Ways are proposed for 3 road spurs adjacent to Highway 81 that were abandoned after improvements to the Highway many years ago. *A review of the process needed for a vacation of a right-of-way is being conducted by the County Attorney.*